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THE WILSON BULLETIN

A Quarterly Magazine Devoted to the Study of Living Birds.
Official Organ of the Wilson Ornithological Club.

Edited by **LYNDS JONES.**

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Officers of the Wilson Ornithological Club for 1909:

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EDITORIAL.

The usual spectacle of appearing late is again presented. Indeed, the editor sees little light in the direction of promptness for months to come, since his time belongs to Oberlin College. The editorial work has to take remnants of time, being wholly incidental to regular work. The present number is later than usual, and later than the remaining two numbers for the year are likely to be because the June Number conflicts with the closing weeks of the college year, which are always full. If this tardiness worries the reader half as much as it does the editor he (the editor!) is very sorry.

Letters addressed to the editor at Birmingham, Ohio, during August and September, will reach him more promptly than if addressed to Oberlin.

W. L. Dawson, our fellow member, has seen his monumental work on the Birds of Washington through the press and has already begun delivery to subscribers. This book resembles his Birds of Ohio in general, but is far better in every particular. He is to be congratulated upon the completion of what seemed an all but impossible task.

The definite movement which has been set on foot by Professor Leon J. Cole, of New Haven, Conn., for tagging birds is worthy of more than passing mention. The aluminum strips used for the tagging—small strips with a number and the words "Notify the Auk, N. Y.," are to be bent around the tarsus of a bird, a careful record kept of the birds so tagged, and this record finally returned to Professor Cole. So many of these tags are being attached to birds this summer that great hopes are entertained that many of the birds bearing tags will be heard from. By this means it should be possible to determine with accuracy the wanderings of the birds. It is only by some such means that individual birds may be surely recognized.

FIELD NOTES.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (*Actodromas bairdii*) IN WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.—In the Wilson Bulletin for December, 1908, on page 207, Mr. P. A. Taverner credits Mr. Albert Jones with taking a Baird's Sandpiper on September 13. This bird was shot and identified by Mr. Walter C. Wood, who presented it to Mr. Jones. The Baird's Sandpiper was anything but rare during the autumn of 1908. I examined specimens taken on various dates by Walter C. Wood and Herbert H. Spicer. Personally, I did not meet with it until August 26, when I noted a flock of seventeen and took a specimen. From that date they were present on all visits until last seen on September 27. I secured my last birds September 23. These were all on the mud and water swale on P. C. 667, Ecorse Township, mentioned by Mr. Taverner.

J. CLAIRE WOOD.

THE DICKCISSEL IN WAYNE COUNTY, MICH.—In the Wilson Bulletin for June, 1905, and March and June, 1907, I gave my local observations of the Dickcissel prior to 1907 and will now bring them up to date. June 30 1907, I crossed the belt of open lands where the greater number of Dickcissels were seen the previous year. My attention was directed to a male by his song and I took the time to locate the nest. This was found by beating to and fro through the weeds until the female flushed. It was well concealed and placed in the thickest kind of weed growth about three feet above the ground and contained two fresh eggs. This was on P. C. 619, Grosse Pointe Township. No more birds were seen, but when I returned to this nest, July 7 three additional pairs were present. July 1 a male spent much time singing from a telegraph wire by the roadside on Section